

Vanguard of Grifftmen Coming Here This Week—Ingram Named Navy Coach

PLAYERS' VANGUARD COMING THIS WEEK

Harper, Henry, and Jamieson Due in Capital to Visit Their Friends.

PING BODIE NOW IN LINE

National League Adopts Military Plans Suggested by Captain Huston.

By LOUIS A. DOUGHER. The vanguard of the Grifftmen is expected to make its appearance before the week passes away.

Harry Harper, the big southpaw twirler, will come to town ahead of time to visit with his friends before heading to Augusta.

John Henry, who will go South with the pitching squad, is due here Sunday. John will probably settle his contract troubles between then and sailing time.

Charlie Jamieson has made arrangements to accompany Harper to the Capital, as they do not live far apart.

Would See Inauguration. All of the Grifftmen who can find an excuse will be here in time to see the inauguration parade on March 5, though the regulars will not leave for Augusta, Ga., until March 10.

When President Wilson was inaugurated the first time practically every one of the players was here, witnessing the big parade before leaving for Charlottesville the same day.

Frank Plizola has signed to play with the Mackmen this season. His contract was received by Connie Mack yesterday. Frank is better known as Ping Bodie, the "Italian banana merchant," a slugger of the old fashioned type.

Ping played on the Pacific coast last season and found his long lost batting eye. Connie Mack bought him only to discover that Ping wanted more money than offered. Connie has finally agreed to pay him \$3,750 for his season's services in the garden at Shibe Park.

Tener Supports Plan. John K. Tener, president of the National League, comes forward in support of Captain Huston's plan to institute military drill among the players of the big leagues this spring.

"I think the players of the National League," says Tener, "should get a little drill, if only one session a day. I believe nothing but the highest patriotism actuated Captain Huston in proposing his military plan. Should the country be in need, I feel confident that baseball will respond as quickly as any other business."

Glants Leave Tomorrow. The first squad of Glants leave New York tomorrow for Marlton, Tex. They will consist mostly of young pitchers. Benny Kauff, though, has asked to be allowed to join the party and may be there when the train pulls out. A year ago Kauff, having read the papers about himself, held out till the last minute. This year things are different.

Three more Yankees have signed. They are Al Walters, the catcher; George Morgridge, the southpaw pitcher; and Hughie High, the midge-outfielder. So far as known, every Yankee is now in line.

Only Two Are Left. Only two of the Detroit Tigers remain to be signed and Frank Navin, who handles that part of his club's affairs, expects no trouble in getting them. Harry Coveleskie, the veteran southpaw pitcher, and Oscar Vitt, the third baseman, have yet to sign.

George Burns, first baseman, yesterday sent his signed papers to President Navin. Burns had been reading of the decision of Hughie Jennings to use Harry Heilmann at the initial sack, if Burns failed to agree to terms.

TAKE TWO GAMES

Central Basketers Defeat Episcopal and Western Second.

Central got even with Episcopal High School in closing its basketball season yesterday. The Episcopal lads were handed a 16-to-15 defeat, while Central's scrubs defeated Western's second team by 37 to 15.

The half ended with the score 7 all in the big game. So close was the guarding that none of the players got more than a hurried pot at the basket. Central forged ahead in the second half until the score was 15 to 10. With but three minutes to play Episcopal drew up almost on even terms. Free tosses netted the visitors three points, and a basket brought the score to 15. Central maintained the margin on White's free toss, although Episcopal was gnawing up toward the end of the battle.

Western's seconds were no match for the Central players on the big floor. None of the Westerners could cope with Wilson, a newcomer at Central, who played the pivot position.

HAWAII FOR RED SOX. BOSTON, Feb. 22.—The World's Champion Red Sox may train in Honolulu next spring. President Huston is now considering plans offered by the business men of the island capital. The Hawaiians are willing to pay all expenses in Honolulu and transportation from San Francisco and back.

EVERETT SCOTT SIGNS. BOSTON, Feb. 22.—Everett Scott, the Red Sox shortstop, has signed for 1917, his contract arriving yesterday.

WIN FRAT GAMES. Phi defeated Alpha Beta 28 to 12, and Sigma trimmed Chi 12 to 9, in the Phi Mu Sigma Basketball League last night. Both games were interesting.

Technical Players Have Highest Scorer in Tabb

Manual Trainers Win High School League Championship in First Start in Title Series on Floor—Records Are Compiled.

Basketball points compiled from the twenty-game High School League series show Roland Tabb, of Technical, as leading scorer in the games played at the Y. M. C. A. this winter. Tech had by no means a one-man team, but Tabb went out in front at the start of the season and compiled the best figures of all the fifty-odd players participating.

The real basket shooter of the series is R. Wise, of Business. Wise shot twenty-seven baskets in eight games, but would probably have been beaten out had Coach Martin allowed Tabb to play through the final battle last Tuesday.

Figures Are Lower. All scoring figures are lower this season than last. The size of the Y. M. C. A. gymnasium is attributed to the low averages compiled by the youngsters in the circuit. Tabb averaged but three baskets per game as against eight per game scored by Lester Peine, of Western, last year.

None of the teams approximated the point totals of either Western or Army and Navy Prep of last year. On the whole, the teams were more evenly matched and another year may find the scores higher.

Results of Games. Scores of the twenty games played in the series are as follows:

Business, 21; Western, 12. Eastern, 22; Central, 21. Tech, 33; Western, 20. Business, 23; Eastern, 17. Central, 33; Western, 20. Tech, 34; Central, 20. Central, 25; Business, 21. Tech, 16; Eastern, 9. Western, 18; Eastern, 10. Western, 24; Business, 18. Business, 23; Tech, 16.

ALEXANDER LEAPS INTO HIGH SALARY

Signs Contract for \$12,500, Compromising With Phillies' President.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 22.—Grover Cleveland Alexander, after six years in the National League, has finally jumped into the class of ballplayers drawing huge salaries. He will begin this year to draw a salary proportionate to other great stars of the game after having pitched his team into one pennant and having tried valiantly in two other seasons.

He signed a contract yesterday calling for a salary. It is generally believed, of \$12,500. This is \$2,500 less than the sum he was holding out for and is \$2,500 more than he was "usually" offered by President Baker of the Phillies.

Five Draw More. There are now five men in baseball believed to be drawing larger salaries than Alexander. Two of these, John J. McGraw and George Stallings, are managers. Ty Cobb, Tris Speaker and Eddie Collins are the others. They are admittedly the greatest players in the game.

Cobb is reported to be drawing \$15,000 a year, Speaker \$17,500, and Collins \$15,000. Walter Johnson, of the Senators, is receiving a salary of \$12,500. Comparing the record of Alexander with the records of other high-salaried stars, it is reasonable to argue that Alexander should have received the raise he has been granted long ago.

Won Title All Alone. In 1915 Alexander won thirty-one games and lost ten, pitching his team almost unaided into the championship of the National League. He missed duplicating this feat last fall by the narrowest of margins. In fact, he pitched two games in a single day last fall, winning both of them. He won the only world's series game credited to the Phillies over the Red Sox in the 1915 conflict.

Alexander will leave here Saturday for Pittsburgh, Mass., together with Bill Killefer, where they will both be the guests of Pat Moran, manager, on a short fishing trip. The famous mounder will leave for the South with the team on March 6.

"PEP" WANTS MORE. Hornsby Asks \$6,000 Salary for Signing With Cardinals.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 22.—Roger Hornsby, known all over the National League circuit as "Pep" Hornsby, is a loudout.

When Hornsby opened his contract he discovered it contained a \$5,000 salary. This was twice as much as he drew last year, but he decided immediately that it was not enough for the cards' lone 300 hitter.

Taking pen in hand, "Pep" wrote a little note to Miller Huggins, asking that the St. Louis club come across with \$6,000, and returned the official paper.

It is expected that Huggins and Hornsby will reach some sort of a compromise within a few days.

KILL BOXING BILL. INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 22.—Opponents of boxing have throttled the bill before the legislature here allowing ten-round bouts.

The lower house, lacking enough votes to kill it altogether, has made it impossible to take it up again this session.

IN CUE CONTESTS. Robert Raine won from Tom Dowling, 100 to 95, and William Grison defeated John Hogan, 100 to 87, in the Arbitrator pocket billiard tournament last night.

LOSE TOO MUCH MONEY. EL PASO, Feb. 22.—Finding that they had already lost \$60,000, horsemen in charge of the Juarez race meet, which the river have suspended activities.

WILL ROW MAY 19. NEW HAVEN, Feb. 22.—Yale and Cornell will meet on the new two-mile course at Derby on May 19. Princeton has declined to make it a triangular race. This will be the first appearance of Cornell in Connecticut since 1898, when the Ithacans defeated both Harvard and Yale at New London.

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WOLGAST BREAKS DOWN. CHICAGO, Feb. 22.—Ad Wolgast, former world's lightweight champion, has suffered a physical breakdown, the result of too much training, and has been removed to a sanatorium here.

ALUMNI WIN GAME. W. O'Leone and Schmidt were the stars of a basketball game in which Gonzaga Alumni defeated the Gonzaga regular team, 30 to 18.

INGRAM APPOINTED FOOTBALL MENTOR

Navy Coach for Past Two Years Gains Confidence of Academy.

Lieut. Jonas E. Ingram, head coach of the Navy football team for the past two years, has been reappointed head coach of the Navy team for next fall, according to word received here today.

Although the Navy has failed to win in both years Ingram has been at the head of the football team confidence has been placed in his methods in the appointment. It is believed at Annapolis that Ingram has succeeded in developing many first-class players.

Ingram was loath to accept the position, it is said, and went so far as to name several successors. The athletic board expressed satisfaction in the progress of the Navy teams under Ingram's methods.

It is reported that as a number of high class football players were developed last fall, especially in the fourth and third classes, Ingram will have an excellent chance next fall.

Tom Fisher, former Eastern High School player of this city, is captain-elect of the Navy football team for next fall, and is the only first class man on the string retained.

HOPKINS ELECTED TENNIS PRESIDENT

Washington Association Sets Plans for Coming Season's Competition.

James H. Hopkins, chairman of the tennis committee of Chevy Chase Club, was elected president, and Ezra Gould, Dumbarton Club, and L. I. Doyle, Departmental League, were re-elected secretary and treasurer, respectively, at a meeting of the Washington Tennis Association.

Chevy Chase, Columbia, and Dumbarton Clubs will take part in the Association team matches during the coming season, and the winner will compete with either the Suburban or Departmental League representatives, the latter to hold matches to determine the contestants to meet the association victor, for the championship.

Suburban and Departmental are associate members of the W. T. A., and the three clubs mentioned active members.

To Play Baltimore. A representative team of Baltimore will be played by the W. T. A. champion in an intercity title match.

August 20 was settled as the time limit for clubs and leagues to complete their schedules, providing plenty of time to play the post-season contests.

Association matches will be played on Saturdays, a tentative schedule calling for the teams to meet each other three times starting August 18 and continuing through August 18.

Ranking Committee Names. The secretary and two others to be drawn from the clubs holding active membership in the association will compose the District ranking committee.

Approval of the Borland-Gallinger daylight conservation bill before Congress was voiced at the meeting.

GALLAUDET LOSES

Beaten by Seton Hall Basketball, 49 to 23.

SOUTH ORANGE, N. J., Feb. 22.—Gallaudet made Seton Hall split lively in the first half of a basketball contest here last night, but fell before the superior strength of the locals in the final section and was beaten 49 to 23.

The first half ended 18 to 17 in favor of Seton. The latter was aided considerably through an advantage in weight.

Wenger, left forward for Gallaudet, was the best player for the visitors. He shot four field goals and nine free tosses.

PLAYS FINAL HOME GAME

G. W. U. Meets Sensational Tennessee Quint Saturday.

George Washington will clash with the University of Tennessee basketball team in the Y. M. C. A. gym Saturday night in its final home game of the season. The Tennessee players have won eight straight games and should prove an attraction here.

Preliminary to the contest the George Washington Girls will take on the Baltimore Eastern High alumni girls' quint, starting at 7:45. The varsity game will begin at 8:45.

DROP CHIEF BENDER

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 22.—Albert (Chief) Bender has been released unconditionally by the Phillies. Bender, long star with the Athletics, is expected to assume the management of a minor league club.

POOL IS CLOSED

Competition has been called off for the Central swimming teams until further notice. Tuesday meets will be resumed as soon as Coach Lynner can get the pool for use. The water has been too cold for use in the past few days.

LISTS FOURTEEN GAMES

LEXINGTON, Va., Feb. 22.—Virginia Military Institute has fourteen games on its baseball schedule for the coming season. The institutions to be played are Virginia Christian College, Amherst College, William and Mary, Richmond College, Randolph Macon, Syracuse University, Trinity College, Connecticut, Virginia Poly. Davidson, and Trinity, North Carolina. Virginia Christian will be played first on March 24 at Lexington.

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BOB THAYER'S GOSSIP ON SPORTING MATTERS

It is so good of Ban Johnson to announce "another thrilling race in the American League" for 1917. As far back as memory runneth, Ban has made this announcement annually. However, this year he may be right.

From all accounts, the Red Sox are going to have strenuous opposition from Detroit, Chicago and New York, to say no more. It is possible to pick plenty of fans who will bank on any one of these three clubs as winners of the 1917 flag.

One fan in St. Louis has said that the Browns would come in one-two-three. So far, though, nobody has picked on the Grifftmen or the Indians for premier honors, and so either may fool the mob and cop.

If the Mackmen are blessed with capable pitching, which they sadly lacked last season, they may tighten up the race so badly that a toss of a coin will decide the ultimate winner.

Perhaps Ban was right, after all. Baltimore writers are rushing to the assistance of Joe Egan, handicapper for the South Atlantic A. U. They should save their ammunition. It may be needed later on.

Kid Williams made a failure of his six-round bout in Philadelphia with Eddie O'Keefe. To wise men at the ringside, the former bantam champion lacked his old aggressiveness and hitting abilities. O'Keefe, a light hitter, had no trouble reaching Williams' jaw.

Therefore it is wise to conclude that some good hitter is going to send the Baltimorean into oblivion in the near future. Who will it be?

LES DARCY CANNOT FACE JACK DILLON

Indianapolis Boxer Is Ordered to Carry Out Agreement With Al McCoy.

NEW YORK, Feb. 22.—Just when Les Darcy, the Australian slacker, is to show his wares in the metropolis remains as much of a mystery today as ever. All hopes of his meeting Jack Dillon in Madison Square Garden on March 5 have been killed by the mandate of the boxing commission, which has ordered the Indianapolis boxer to carry out his contract with Al McCoy at the Broadway Sporting Club before March 1. Dillon is now in New Orleans, and it is impossible for him to come here in shape to meet McCoy.

McCoy has been ordered to meet Dillon before tackling the Australian, and the latter has been ordered to meet McCoy before facing Darcy. Darcy seems the only boxer left out in the cold.

Boxing enthusiasts here believe that neither McCoy nor Dillon will make a good opponent for Darcy, if the latter is as good as his press agents have said. It is possible that Governor Whitman will kill boxing in the State before the Australian gets a chance to appear in New York.

HOLLENBACK LOSES

Players Revolt and Syracuse Football Coach Goes.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Feb. 22.—"Big Bill" Hollenback, former Penn star, today was discharged as coach of the Syracuse University football team for 1917.

The dismissal of Hollenback follows delivery of an ultimatum yesterday to Chancellor James Roscoe Day by nine Syracuse football men, headed by Quarterback "Chick" McEwan.

The football men told the chancellor that they were greatly displeased with Hollenback. McEwan stated today, saying further that he was incapable as a field mentor and that his tactics and field plays were not practical.

The athletic governing board will receive Chancellor Day's request on March 12.

FORDHAM BEGINS

Coach Gargan Calls Out Baseball Candidates for Work.

NEW YORK, Feb. 22.—Baseball practice at Fordham University started yesterday afternoon, when a squad of thirty candidates answered Coach Gargan's first call for candidates.

Marty McEwan, former Yankee hurler, has been appointed battery coach, and was on hand to look over the pitching material. McQuade, Collins, Kiernan, and Martin were out for a mound assignment, while McGinn, Murphy, and Sweetland did the receiving.

CISSELL RETURNS

Howard Cissell, Central's basketball captain, who has been in Georgetown Hospital since Christmas, attended yesterday's Central Episcopal game. Cissell received an ovation from the Central students. He is captain of the tennis team, but will hardly be able to take part in matches this year.

FEW ATHLETES TO GO

Few scholastic athletes will take part in the Johns Hopkins Fifth Regiment meet to be held in Baltimore on Saturday. Central and Tech will probably send a few entries for the various events. The George Washington team, to be held here March 2, will find many schoolboys competing in the fifty, quarter and half-mile scholastic events.

WOLGAST BREAKS DOWN

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SISLER SHOULD BE STAR THIS SEASON

Experience Ought to Make Him One of the League's Best Drawing Cards.

By JOE VILA. NEW YORK, Feb. 22.—When Fielder Jones, manager of the St. Louis Browns, was in town last week he expressed the opinion that George Sisler was the best first baseman in the American League. Jones also declared that Sisler was in the same class with Tyus Raymond Cobb, and that at the end of the coming season the Browns' first sacker would have a batting average that would compare favorably with the record of both Cobb and Tris Speaker.

Sisler played 140 games at first base last year. He made twenty-four fielding errors and his percentage was .986. He was excellent in this respect by Pipp, of the Yankees; Gandil, of the Clevelanders; McNinn, of the Athletics; Hoblitzell, of Gainer of the Red Sox; Judge, of the Washingtons, and Heilmann, of the Tigers.

Led All in Batting. Sisler, however, led all the American League first basemen in batting and base running. He hung up a batting average of .305 and stole thirty-four bags. Sisler's fielding at times was sensational. In fact, Jones said the other day that he frequently saw Sisler make plays that Hal Chase could not have excelled.

Sisler, a left handed batsman, pounded the best pitchers in the Johnnies' circuit, and displayed so much natural skill with his year club that Jones predicted last fall that the former University of Michigan star would be one of the greatest hitters in baseball history.

Sisler played eighty-one games in 1915 and his batting average was .285. Inasmuch as he batted .305 last season, Jones believes that he will continue to improve until he is rated on a par with Speaker and Cobb, whose 1916 percentages were .386 and .371, respectively.

Of the regulars who played in a majority of the games Speaker, Cobb, Jackson, Strunk, Eddie Collins, Gardner, and Veach were the only ones who topped Sisler in the batting averages.

Can Play Anywhere. Jones' contention that Sisler's value to the Browns equals that of Cobb and Speaker of the Tigers and Clevelanders, respectively, is based on the fact that the St. Louis star can play every position on the field except behind the bat.

Sisler is a first class left handed pitcher. In fact, Jones had an idea of using him regularly in the box last spring, until he discovered that Horton, an experimental first baseman, was as good as the bat. Sisler has covered second, third and short acceptably, and also has done splendid work in the outfield, but his best position is at the first corner and he will be stationed there permanently.

Best Youngster in Night. It is freely admitted that Sisler is the greatest player that has been developed in the American League since Cobb, Speaker, Eddie Collins and other high-salaried men won their spurs. Yet the Browns' star does not receive a \$15,000 salary. He accepted an offer of \$5,500, it is said, when he signed with the Browns and turned his back on the Pirates who had a moral claim on his services.

Sisler's rapid improvement has resulted in several raises so that this year his salary will reach \$5,500, if not more. He will be a powerful drawing-card in the Mount City and on the road during the approaching campaign.

Pipp Should Advance

Walter Pipp, of the Yankees, is another young first baseman who is expected to make rapid strides this year.

Pipp's batting average was .262 in 145 games last season, but he led the American League in home runs with twelve, also cracking the ball for twenty-two baggers and fourteen triples.

Pipp's only weakness with the stick was displayed when he faced left-handed pitchers. Frequently Donovan, on those occasions, supplemented Pipp with a pinch hitter. But it is confidently believed that if Pipp is permitted to play in every game, barring accidents, this year he will gradually get the hang of southpaw deliveries.

Few Hit Harder

I doubt if any other American League player can hit the ball harder than Pipp. He is liable to break up any ball game with a great drive for a base.

The experience he gained in 1916, therefore, would seem to indicate a much better record with the bat. Bill Donovan said yesterday that, in his opinion, Pipp would get into the .300 class beyond a question of doubt.

Pipp played brilliantly at first last season. He covered much ground and took care of all kinds of wild pegs. He handled batted balls with alacrity, and his throwing was well-nigh perfect. Yet Pipp, in Donovan's opinion, will cover the bag with greater skill in the future.

Gandil May Lose Out

Gandil was the best fielding first baseman in the American League in 1916, but his batting average was only .259. For that reason he may be succeeded by Guisto, a hard-hitter from the Pacific coast.

McNinn, after a poor start finished the campaign with an average of .259, standing second to Sisler. George Burns, of the Tigers, batted .250 and tied Sisler in the fielding percentages.

Hoblitzell and Gainer, of the Red Sox, splendid fielders, batted .250 and .253, respectively, but they did some timely hitting.

Judge, of the Washingtons, wound up with .226, for which reason Gandil will try to supplant him with Howard Shankie.

ALUMNI WIN GAME

W. O'Leone and Schmidt were the stars of a basketball game in which Gonzaga Alumni defeated the Gonzaga regular team, 30 to 18.

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